

Response to Letter to Editor

I very much appreciate Professor Mahoney-Norris' feedback on my essay, to include her well-reasoned critique of my inclusion of Generals Powell and Petraeus as examples of professional writing efforts.

Her point is an extremely important one: that is, the civil-military implications of senior officer writing. Obviously, my essay was not oriented towards that issue, but it certainly is a topic worthy of further discussion.

I addressed it in part in an essay entitled "Voices from the Stars? America's Generals and Public Debates," found in the November 2006 ABA *National Security Law Report* (accessible at http://www.abanet.org/natsecurity/nslr/2006/NSL_Report_2006_11.pdf, pp. 8–11).

I want to thank the *SSQ* staff for publishing not just my essay but Professor Mahoney-Norris' critique as well. I firmly believe that such dialogue is exactly the kind of exchange the *SSQ* was designed to generate in order for the Air Force to advance its intellectual development.

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